

# **10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Fort River School Building Committee**

**8:30-9:00 AM, Friday, June 8, 2018  
Fort River Elementary School Library  
70 South East Street, Amherst, MA 01002**

**NOTE: This meeting is recorded by Amherst Media and made available to the public via [amherstmedia.org](http://amherstmedia.org).**

## **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order.
2. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting.
3. Public Comments.
4. Review Designer Interview Process:
  - Discuss interview process, full committee present or evaluation working group only.
  - Vote.
5. Vice Chair Position:
  - Discuss electing a new Vice Chair for June and July.
  - Vote.
6. Adjourn.

## **IN ATTENDANCE (\* voting member)**

Jonathan Salvon, Interim Chair\*

Eric Nakajima, Interim Vice-Chair\*

Irene Dujovne\*

Maria Kopicki\*

Heather Sheldon\*

Jim McPherson\*

Diane Chamberlain\*

Michael Morris, Superintendent

Anthony Delaney, Town of Amherst\*

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Call to Order.**

Mr. Salvon calls meeting to order, stating that it is the 9<sup>th</sup> committee meeting and is being taped by Amherst Media. The agenda (**Document 1**) has already circulated.

### **2. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting.**

There are no minutes to review.

### **3. Public Comments.**

Chris Riddle (townsperson) passes around copies of the zero-energy town building bylaw. A version of the bylaw was passed in November in town meeting. The Select Board, manager's office, chair of DPW fire committee, and two people from Mothers Out Front then made a more fine-tuned second version, which passed by 149-2 at

town meeting. Compliance with the bylaw is determined at the completion of design and engineering when the bid documents are ready, and by the architect's certification of being "zero-energy capable" (as defined in the bylaw). A third peer-review process determines the accuracy of this certification, based on whether the building has sufficient airtightness, insulation, and renewable energy supply. Ideally the certification and peer-review is done before going out to bid. In the first version of the bylaw there could be Power Purchase Agreements or leases for the PV (photovoltaic system); now these must be bought. Cost limits in current bylaw (upset limit): if renewable energy systems cost more than 10% of building's total cost, that 10% must be built back up. Green or grid power could be bought to make up the difference.

**Implications:** Mr. Riddle reminds the committee that this is not just a suggestion, this is law. **Recommendation:** lead designer should be an expert in zero-energy buildings (with past examples and data of Energy Use Intensity (EUI)). He also announces that there will be a tour of four town buildings that are zero-energy on the following day (June 9, 2018). Mr. Riddle points out that the bylaw refers to new construction, not renovation; there may be financial incentive to renovate, but he urges them not to because of the diminished energy efficiency potential.

#### 4. Review Designer Interview Process.

According to state and town design selection procedures, the evaluation task force will receive submissions, choose three finalists, and interview and rank them. The task force received only three responses and found that none merited disqualification. The next step will be to interview the candidates. **Considerations for conducting interviews:** Task force or entire committee? Can the interviews be video-taped? Should the recommendation of designer to the town manager come from task force or whole committee? Mr. Delaney says the recommendation should come from the "evaluators" (task force), according to designer selection procedures. It also makes more sense logistically to have only the task force involved in the interview process. The task force, which has already met twice, will solicit questions from committee, however, so that everyone has the same questions before interviews. [Pause in meeting for morning announcements.] The task force is under quorum and is composed of Mr. Delaney, Mr. Salvon, Ms. Dujovne, Ms. Kopicki, Ms. Royal and Mr. Herrington (everyone who expressed interest). [Ben Herrington's status as non-voting member does not impede him from being on the evaluating task force.] **Motion to vote for evaluation task force to conduct interviews and rank finalists;** seconded. Motion passes. It is decided that **questions can be submitted to Mr. Delaney for task force to review and incorporate. Mr. Delaney will send an email reminding committee members to submit their questions.** Mr. Delaney reports that proposals are confidential until finalist is chosen, so committee members not on task force cannot see the proposals. **Interviews will be video-taped, however, and made available to the public via the committee website.**

#### 5. Vice Chair Position.

Mr. Salvon will be away from June 19-July 12 and Mr. Nakajima may have scheduling conflicts impeding his attendance of future meetings. Ms. Kopicki volunteers to be an assistant vice chair. **Motion to nominate Ms. Kopicki as assistant vice chair;** seconded. Motion passes. **Last items of discussion:** Filling empty seats, and Ben Herrington's voting status. There are several procedural issues surrounding Mr. Herrington's official appointment to the quorum which remain unresolved.

**6. Adjourn.**

Motion to adjourn; seconded. Meeting is adjourned.

## **DOCUMENTS**

### **1. Agenda**

Fort River School Building Committee  
Meeting 10  
Friday, June 8, 2018  
8:30-9:30pm  
Meeting being taped for broadcast on Amherst Media  
LOCATION: Fort River Library

#### **Agenda**

Call to Order

Approve minutes of previous meeting

Public Comment

Review designer interview process:

- Discuss interview process. Full committee present or evaluation working group only.
- Vote

Vice Chair position:

- Discuss selecting a new Vice Chair for June and July.
- Vote

Adjourn

**Submitted by Haley Riemer-Peltz, official minute recorder for the Fort River School Building Committee.**